



MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Sachi A. Hamai, Executive Officer-  
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
Los Angeles, California 90012

At its meeting held March 13, 2007, the Board took the following action:

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Supervisor Burke made the following statement:

“Historically, the County of Los Angeles has provided employment opportunities for youth and young professionals through a variety of programs. For example, the Department of Public Social Services and the Department of Community and Senior Services collaborate with the County Workforce Investment Board to administer the Summer Youth Jobs Program. Also, the Department of Human Resources coordinates with several other County Departments to place a few professional student workers in educational positions each year. Unfortunately, due to a combination of factors including budget reductions at the State and Federal levels, employment opportunities for our youth have largely diminished in the last several years.

“Providing meaningful employment for our youth, especially during the summer months when they are out of school, is an important step toward promoting their health, safety and general well-being. Employment for youth during their vacation periods from school can help shape their future career goals and provide them with a safe alternative to roaming the streets where they are often times influenced by drugs and other crimes.

“Other jurisdictions like New York City also see the value in youth employment, as evidenced by its recent creation of 40,000 temporary employment positions for its youth. In light of our high crime and the many inherent benefits of employing our youth, it is imperative that the County of Los Angeles take a strong leadership role by promoting youth employment opportunities.”

Therefore, Supervisor Burke made a motion that the Chief Administrative Officer be directed to work in concert with the Director of Personnel in order to develop a uniform Countywide policy which shall accomplish the following tasks, and report back to the Board within 60 days with findings and recommendations:

(Continued on Page 2)

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1. Create up to 3,000 temporary part-time employment positions for youth between the ages of 14 and 18 during their vacation periods away from school. Such employment opportunities shall be, to the extent feasible, distributed proportionately throughout the County's 38 departments; and
2. Review the existing Student Worker and Student Professional Worker Programs administered by the Department of Human Resources to examine the feasibility, including a cost-benefit analysis, of expanding and enhancing the program to accommodate a greater number of participants.

David E. Janssen, Chief Administrative Officer, responded to questions posed by the Board.

After discussion, Supervisor Antonovich made a suggestion that Supervisor Burke's motion be amended to direct the Chief Administrative Officer and the Director of Personnel to include in the uniform Countywide policy that preference for summer youth employment with County Departments be given to the County's foster children, emancipated and emancipating foster youth. Supervisor Burke accepted Supervisor Antonovich's amendment.

Further, Supervisor Yaroslavsky made a suggestion to amend Supervisor Burke's motion to also direct the Chief Administrative Officer to work in concert with the Director of Personnel to accomplish the following tasks:

1. Consider the creation of up to 3,000 temporary part-time employment positions for youth between the ages of 14 and 18 during their vacation periods away from school. Such employment opportunities shall be, to the extent feasible, distributed proportionately throughout the County's 38 departments;
2. Review the existing Student Worker and Student Professional Worker Programs administered by the Department of Human Resources to examine the feasibility, including a cost-benefit analysis, of expanding and enhancing the program to accommodate a greater number of participants; and
3. Report back with findings and any recommendations, including potential costs and funding sources within 60 days.

Supervisor Burke accepted Supervisor Yaroslavsky's amendment.

(Continued on Page 3)

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Supervisor Knabe made the following statement:

“I am supportive of efforts to provide summer job opportunities for young people. Last year, our Board invested \$6.5 million on a one-time basis, to the benefit of 3,700 young people who participated in community-based summer employment and internship programs all over Los Angeles County.

“We should support efforts to provide these opportunities in local cities and communities in a flexible, year-to-year approach, contingent on funding priorities, rather than a sustained, programmatic approach. To plan effectively for this, we must engage our partners in the community that are equally concerned about providing summer employment programs. We also must ensure that any job opportunities we do provide are readily accessible to all young people in the County, no matter where they live.”

Also, Supervisor Knabe made a suggestion to further amend Supervisor Burke's motion to direct the Chief Administrative Officer to work in consultation with the Directors of Personnel and Community and Senior Services and report back to the Board in 60 days on a strategy to develop and fund flexible, community-based summer employment opportunities for young people, by engaging organizations that interact with young people and may offer summer jobs, as well as private foundations and corporations interested in subsidizing Countywide summer employment programs. Supervisor Burke accepted Supervisor Knabe's amendment.

On motion of Supervisor Burke, seconded by Supervisor Yaroslavsky, unanimously carried, the Board took the following actions:

1. Instructed the Chief Administrative Officer to work in concert with the Director of Personnel to accomplish the following tasks, and report back to the Board within 60 days with findings and recommendations, including potential costs and funding sources:
  - Consider the creation of up to 3,000 temporary part-time employment positions for youth between the ages of 14 and 18 during their vacation periods away from school. Such employment opportunities shall be, to the extent feasible, distributed proportionately throughout the County's 38 departments;

(Continued on Page 4)

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- Review the existing Student Worker and Student Professional Worker Programs administered by the Department of Human Resources to examine the feasibility, including a cost-benefit analysis, of expanding and enhancing the program to accommodate a greater number of participants; and
  - Give preference for summer youth employment with County Departments to the County's foster children, emancipated and emancipating foster youth; and
2. Instructed the Chief Administrative Officer to work in consultation with the Directors of Personnel and Community and Senior Services and report back to the Board within 60 days on a strategy to develop and fund flexible, community-based summer employment opportunities for young people, by engaging organizations that interact with young people and may offer summer jobs, as well as private foundations and corporations interested in subsidizing Countywide summer employment programs.

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Copies distributed:

Each Supervisor  
Chief Administrative Officer  
County Counsel  
Director of Personnel  
Director of Community and Senior Services